

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In order to avoid content deteriorations caused by embedment of a digital watermark into a moving picture, a process to search a picture for a motion and a process to filter a picture for medical care must be carried out, raising a processing cost. It is thus difficult to implement equipment for processing such pictures at a low cost. In a compound apparatus for encoding compressed code of a moving picture by employing a unit for embedding a digital watermark into a picture, a digital-watermark embedment quantity is determined by using a motion vector and a quantization parameter in a process to embed a digital watermark into the picture. It is thus no longer necessary to carry out the process to search a picture for a motion and the process to filter a picture for medical care for embedment of a digital watermark so that the cost of the entire apparatus can be reduced substantially.

15